

Renewable Energy Grants and Loans for Rural Nevada

Nevada's agricultural producers and rural small businesses have been hit especially hard by price increases in gasoline, diesel, electricity, and natural gas. The cost to our national security is growing too as America sends hundreds of billions of dollars overseas to pay sometimes unfriendly regimes for oil and natural gas.

Fortunately, grant and loan programs can help reduce the cost of energy. Farmers and ranchers in other states have used grant and loan programs to purchase a wide-variety of renewable energy products like solar pumping equipment for livestock watering, geothermal heat pumps, and wind turbines.

These grant programs are specifically designed so that businesses in rural America can take advantage of renewable and energy efficient technologies. I hope you'll take a close look at the following grant and loan programs and consider contacting the USDA Rural Development.



Round Mountain Solar



Washoe Tribe Solar

Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program

This program provides financial assistance through grants and loan guarantees for rural businesses and agricultural producers to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficient improvements.

- Grant requests must not exceed 25 percent of the eligible project costs.
- Projects that cost less than \$200,000 qualify for a simplified application process.
- Renewable energy grants can range from \$2,500 to \$500,000.
- Energy efficiency grants can range from \$1,500 to \$250,000.

For more information please visit the program website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html or contact Dan Johnson with the Nevada Office of USDA Rural Development at 775-738-8468 Ext. 112 or via e-mail at Dan.Johnson@nv.usda.gov. **Final Loan Application Deadline: July 2, 2007**

Value Added Producer Grants

These grants are designed to encourage the installation of renewable energy systems. Previous recipients have used similar financing to complete feasibility analyses and for working capital expenses.

- Eligible applicants include independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.
- The amount of the grant cannot exceed \$500,000 or 50% of the eligible project cost.

For more information please visit the program website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm or contact Dan Johnson with the Nevada State Office of USDA Rural Development if you're interested at 775-738-8468 Ext. 112 or via e-mail at Dan.Johnson@nv.usda.gov.



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Contact Senator Reid

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www.reid.senate.gov/espanol

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